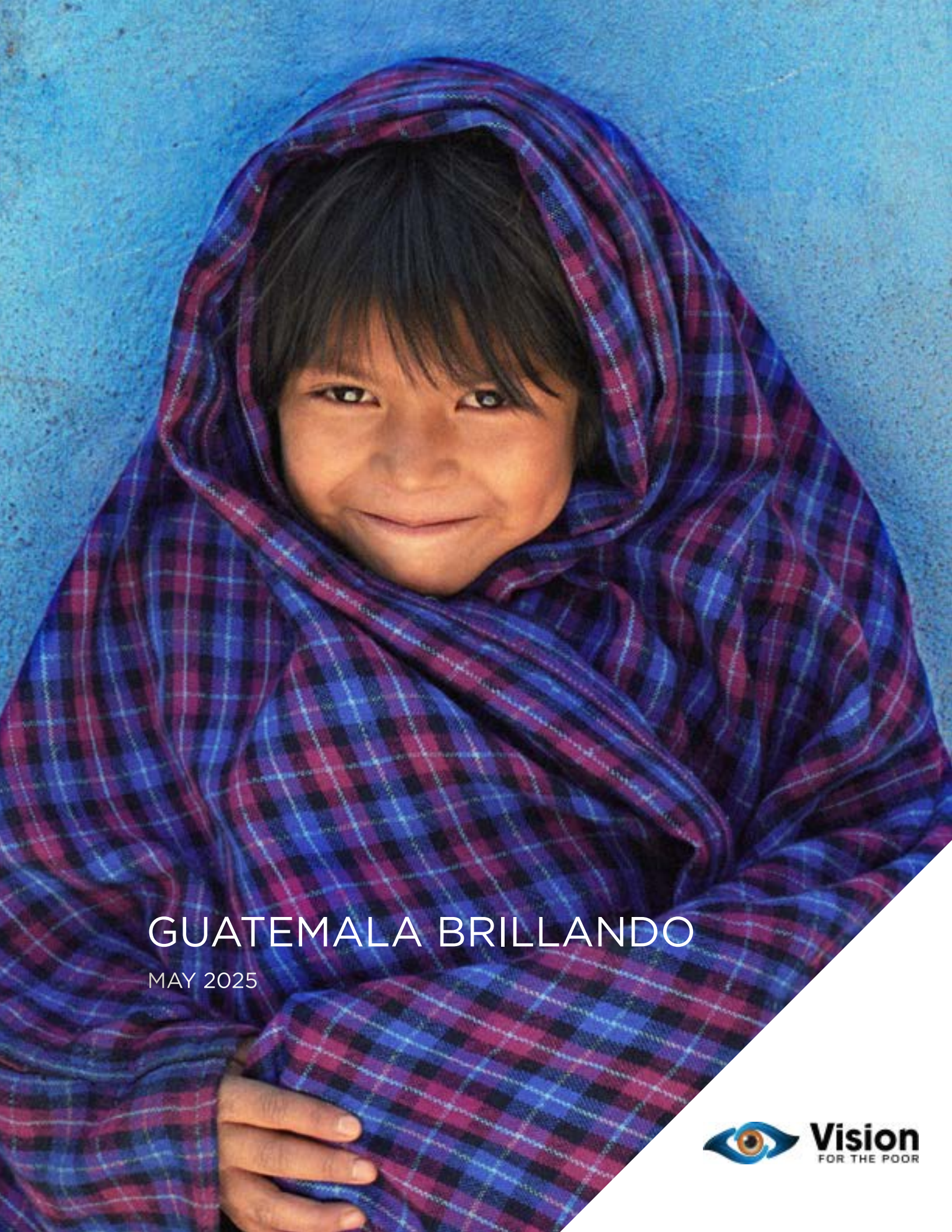


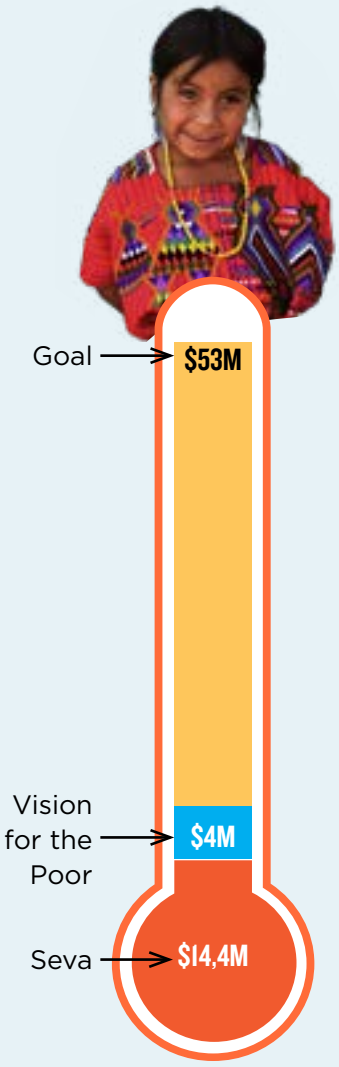
GUATEMALA BRILLANDO

MAY 2025

Vision
FOR THE POOR

IT'S AN AUDACIOUS IDEA:

ENDING AVOIDABLE BLINDNESS AND VISION LOSS GLOBALLY - WE START WITH GUATEMALA



Guatemala Brillando is a locally led transformational and first-of-its-kind national plan to restore sight to over 17 million Guatemalan citizens. Vision for the Poor and Seva Foundation have committed to helping secure the needed USD 53 million required to create the first self-sustainable, nationwide eye care network for Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs).

This national plan will eliminate treatable blindness affecting 17 million Guatemalan men, women, and children. This self-sustaining intervention will ensure that Guatemala and the region have continued access to comprehensive, high-quality, low-cost, or free eye care in their local community.

Building on this hope for Guatemala, Vision for the Poor leadership forged a strategic alliance with the Seva Foundation, an organization with a 47-year track record for creating equitable access to eye care, focusing on traditionally underserved (especially women and girls), and expertise in working successfully in overlooked communities. Seva Foundation has helped more than 67M+ people see again.

GUATEMALA BRILLANDO HIGHLIGHTS

- **To date, we've raised USD 18.4 million from donors who believe in building self-reliance toward our $53 million goal. Vision For the Poor has raised over $4M towards this goal.**
- Quiche Hospital will Soft Open in May 2025, with inaugural celebrations scheduled for July and ongoing through November 2025.

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Vision FOR THE POOR

BY 2032, GUATEMALA BRILLANDO WILL SUCCESSFULLY PROVIDE 17M CITIZENS WITH AFFORDABLE, SUSTAINABLE, WORLD-CLASS EYECARE

How will this be accomplished?

- 8 eye hospitals (3 pre-existing, and five new)
- 38 vision centers
- All infrastructure (hospitals and Vision Centers) are self-sustaining after three years of operation, with reporting accordingly.

CURRENT HOSPITALS AND VISION CENTERS CLUSTERS

1 San Benito, Petén
2 Quetzaltenago
3 Guatemala City Central
4 Quiche

NEW HOSPITALS AND VISION CENTERS CLUSTERS

5 Jutiapa
6 Morales
7 Cobán
8 Huehuetenango

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NATIONAL PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS AND TIMELINE

Cluster	Infrastructure	Build & Develop Reach	Reach Self-Reliance	2032 Nationwide Self-Reliance
ALL TO DATE	3 Eye Hospitals 12 Vision Centers	1997-2024	All but 3	8 Eye Hospitals 38 Vision Centers
Quiche (Completed!)	1 Eye Hospital 4 Vision Centers	2024-2025	2029	
Jutiapa (in need of immediate support)	1 Eye Hospital 6 Vision Centers	2025-2027	2030	
Morales	1 Eye Hospital 5 Vision Centers	2026-2029	2032	
Coban	1 Eye Hospital 5 Vision Centers	2028-2031	2034	
Huehuetenango	1 Eye Hospital 6 Vision Centers	2030-2033	2036	

GUATEMALA BRILLANDO MILESTONES

2022 - 2027		2028 - 2032	
Build Facilities & Staff	Expand Awareness & Trust	Refine Return on Investment	Reach Self-Reliance

VISION FOR THE POOR DONOR INVESTMENT OVERVIEW				
Kern Family	490,000	Central Region Cluster - Escuintla Vision Center	2022-Jan	Since October 2022, the Escuintla Vision Center has served an 88,000-person catchment population. On average, the Vision Center sees 1,800 patients for eye care services per year.
Gallup Family Foundation	700,000	Quiche Cluster - Quiche Hospital Construction - Individual Leadership Gift	2022-Jun	Scheduled to open in July 2025, the Quiche Hospital is a defining project for Guatemala Brillando and will serve a catchment population of 1 million indigenous people in northern Guatemala.
Board of Trustees for Vision for the Poor	200,000	Quetzaltenango Surgical Center and Vincent Pescatore - two optical laboratories	2022-Jun	Operating since 1997, Vincent Pescatore and 202,1 Quetzaltenango's surgical centers and laboratory host 3,267 surgeries and provide 3,500 eyeglasses annually.
Alcon Foundation	260,000	National - ADI Regional Training Center for Excellence	2023-Mar	Along with substantial investment from The Lavelle Fund, the Alcon Foundation supports ADI. The Academia de Desarrollo Integral (Integral Development Academy or ADI), an eye care training institute, educates a growing network of eye care professionals across Guatemala. The academy's comprehensive program specializes in training allied ophthalmic personnel, residents, and subspecialists. It ensures a pipeline of eye care professionals who can offer holistic, high-quality care
Board of Trustees for Vision for the Poor	200,000	Quiche Cluster - Quiche Hospital Construction	2023-Aug	Scheduled to open in July 2025, the Quiche Hospital is a defining project for Guatemala Brillando and will serve a catchment population of 1 million indigenous people in northern Guatemala.
Fran Villela ($190k) and the Board of Trustees for Vision for the Poor ($300k)	490,000	Quiche Cluster - Joyabaj Vision Center	2023-Aug	Since September 2024, the Joyabaj Vision Center has served a catchment population of 399,420 individuals. On average, the Vision Center sees 2,520 patients for eye care services per year.

VISION FOR THE POOR DONOR INVESTMENT OVERVIEW, CONT'D.				
Gallup Family Foundation	300,000	Quiche Cluster - Quiche Hospital	2023-Sep	Scheduled to open in July 2025, the Quiche Hospital is a defining project for Guatemala Brillando and will serve a catchment population of 1 million indigenous people in northern Guatemala.
Vision for the Poor	500,000	Quiche Cluster - Quiche Hospital Operation	2024-Feb	Scheduled to open in July 2025, the Quiche Hospital is a defining project for Guatemala Brillando and will serve a catchment population of 1 million indigenous people in northern Guatemala.
Vision for the Poor	800,000	Quiche Hospital	2024-Sep	These monies are to be combined and used where they are needed most - if a donor comes forward and offsets the 800K for Quiche, we can move these monies to support another development in the national plan.
Vision for the Poor - Drury Foundation	250,000	Quiche Cluster - Pachalum VC	2024-Dec	Due to opening in June 2025, the Pachalum Vision Center will serve a catchment population of 124,000. On average, the Vision Center is projected to see 1,800 patients for eye care services during the first year.
Vision for the Poor - Randy Minard	25,181	ADI Simulator import taxes	2024-Dec	In April 2025, Dr. Mariano Yee negotiated an in-kind donation from Help Me See. This is a significant milestone in advanced ophthalmic training. This essential teaching tool offers a realistic virtual experience, allowing students and professionals to practice ocular surgeries safely without risk to patients. Such technology is vital in training future ophthalmologists, enabling them to refine their surgical skills.

MAY 2025:

QUICHE CLUSTER GUATEMALA BRILLANDO UPDATE

The Quiche Hospital will provide essential eye care services to a catchment population of 1 million and invest in the long-term sustainability of the region's eye care system.

Once entirely constructed, the Quiché Hospital will serve the population six days a week and:

- Treat eye conditions such as correction of refractive errors, cataract, and other ailments
- Provide blood laboratory and pharmacy services
- Produce eyeglasses onsite, reducing the cost and travel time

THE ACADEMIA DE DESARROLLO INTEGRAL(ADI) – A regional center for excellence in training.

The Academia de Desarrollo Integral (Integral Development Academy or ADI) is the first of its kind eye care training institute in Latin America.

The training academy is critical to establishing the new hospitals and vision centers under Guatemala Brillando and the growing network of eye care professionals. The academy's comprehensive program specializes in training allied ophthalmic personnel, residents, and subspecialists. It ensures a pipeline of eye care professionals who can offer holistic, high-quality care.

Immediate Needs

More than ever, your charitable contribution could make a life-changing difference this year. Please consider helping us change the world by investing in one of the following essential investments to help us make this plan a reality.

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Vision FOR THE POOR

NATIONAL PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS AND TIMELINE			
Quiche Region	**Start Date**	**Upcoming Funding Need**	**Update or Comments**
Nebaj Vision Center	Early 2025	$490,000	Detailed proposals available upon request. A final investment in the first region to be completed under this plan.
Jutiapa Region	**Start Date**	**Upcoming Funding Need**	**Update or Comments**
Jutiapa Region Total		$9,025,350	
Jutiapa Hospital*	summer 2025	$4,957,970	Anticipated start date: NOT a completion date. A detailed proposal is available upon request
On the horizon, 6 Vision Centers			
Chiquimula Vision Center	early 2025	$235,845	Anticipate start date: a detailed proposal is available upon request
Jalapa Vision Center	mid 2025	$235,845	Anticipate start date: a detailed proposal is available upon request
Jalpatagua Vision Center	mid 2025	$235,845	Anticipate start date: a detailed proposal is available upon request
Esquipulas Vision Center	2025	$235,845	Anticipate start date: a detailed proposal is available upon request
Zacapa Vision Center	fall 2025	$235,845	Anticipate start date: a detailed proposal is available upon request
Moyuta Vision Center	late 2025	$235,845	Anticipate start date: a detailed proposal is available upon request
Outreach and Cataract Surgeries for the Jutiapa Region Six Vision Centers	ongoing	$570,719	There is a great need for support of this new work, a detailed proposal is available upon request.
Optical Laboratory in Jutiapa Region		$109,980	Pending V4TP application to OGS

**This reflects the cost of constructing a new hospital. Note to reader: Visualiza is attempting to find an existing structure to purchase and refurbish to reduce costs. They will decide by the end of June 2025.*

A NOTE IN CLOSING TO OUR SUPPORTERS

RESEARCH BY SEVA SHOWS

Every $1 invested in EYE HEALTH returns $36 IN BENEFITS.

Guatemala Brillando is a historic opportunity to create the developing world's first self-sustainable eye care network and its replicable playbook. This idea will put people back to work and keep kids in school.

Vision for the Poor and the Seva Foundation will continue to invest in infrastructure, this includes new hospitals and community-based vision centers to AI-driven telemedicine and imaging technology, provide training, strengthen Guatemala's national health care system, create jobs, and provide a highly effective antidote to poverty for millions of people now and for generations to come.

Vision for the Poor and Seva Foundation will support our local partner, Visualiza, in scaling access to eye care to 90% of Guatemala's 18 million population within seven years while refining the playbook for scaling universal access to eye care across Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

This is important because: 1.1 billion people worldwide and 3.5 million in Guatemala live with avoidable blindness or vision loss, simply because they lack access to eye care.

Eye care is a best buy in global development, according to Seva Foundation research published by the World Health Organization's Bulletin in 2023. The study shows that every $1 invested in eye health returns $36 in benefits across individuals' health, productivity, learning, and ability to earn a living – a 6x more significant return than typical development investments and interventions.

This amounts to 15 per person in Guatemala to solve this problem, yielding nearly 1.9 trillion in benefits over time.

And we have a tested, proven, affordable solution, but the work remains.

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