



## **LIGHT AND HOPE INITIATIVE OCTOBER REPORT**

### **Executive Summary.**

October has been a month of impact and collaboration. As a community, we have continued to grow together—celebrating progress and facing challenges with resilience. A key highlight was our partnership with other organizations to conduct successful vision screenings, reaching individuals who often lack access to essential eye care. As we reflect on these milestones, we remain deeply committed to serving our community with heart and purpose. This achievement was made possible through the generous support of the Anekant Community Centre, the Aparigrah Foundation, and Ashok & Madhu Patel.

### **Key Activities**

- Vision Screening
- Franchising
- Redeem
- Trial Box
- Clinic

### **Franchising Program**



This month, we successfully procured essential items for Joseph and Violet to aid them boost their businesses. These purchases were guided by both budget constraints and quality standards, ensuring that each franchisee begins with dignity, professionalism, and the tools needed to thrive.

We also completed a one-week workshop training of the new cohort of franchisees, offering a blended training model that combines technical skills, business literacy, and values-based leadership. Sessions emphasized customer care, budgeting,

marketing, confidence, communication skills and time management, followed by a two-week mentorship session in their places of work. During the mentorship sessions, we were able to





record positive feedback as majority of the women were now able to keep records and track their earnings by monitoring their income and expenditures.

photo of violet and Joseph purchasing materials to boost their business



## SUCCESS STORY

ROSE MWENDE



“I have just completed the franchising training, and it’s already changing how I run my small bead work business,” says Rose, a recent trainee from our program. “I now plan my day better, keep track of my earnings, and talk to my clients with more confidence. What I learned is helping me grow not



just my business, but how I see myself as a businesswoman.”



VIOLET AWUOR



After completing her franchising training, Violet a passionate tailor from Mathare was granted a small loan through Light and Hope Initiative to purchase key items for her tailoring business. With the funds, she bought sewing materials and items, instantly elevating her workspace and attracting new clients. “The loan gave me the push I needed,” Violet shares. “Now I serve more customers each week, and I feel proud of how my business looks and runs.” Her journey reflects how strategic support and trust can unlock real growth.

To amplify visibility and foster community among our beneficiaries, we began development of a mobile app designed to showcase franchisee businesses, facilitate peer networking, and connect users to training resources and promotional opportunities.

The app prototype will be finalized with features including business profiles, chat forums, and event alerts. User testing is scheduled for November with selected franchisees. The Long-term goal of the app is to integrate e-commerce and referral tracking to boost earned income.

This month marks a pivotal step in aligning empowerment with enterprise. By equipping franchisees with tools, training, and digital platforms, we are not only launching businesses, we are cultivating leaders.

### **Vision Screening**

We successfully conducted a free vision screening exercise in Korogocho, Grogon A, followed by another on 31st October 2025 in Ndumberi and on 1st



November in Mlango Kubwa. The activities aimed at promoting eye health and improving access to vision care among community members. Altogether, we reached 2678 people screening, issued 706 eyeglasses, and made 82





referrals for further eye checkups and treatment to Lions. So far we have reached a total of 9577 people screened.

The screening created an opportunity to identify vision challenges early, offer immediate help



through eyeglasses, and connect others to the care they need. Beyond the numbers, it was about bringing relief, hope, and healthier living to the community



### **Optometrist Kit-Trial Box**



This month marked an exciting milestone for us as we finally acquired our own optometrist kit, thanks to the generous support from the Osmosis team. In the past, we often had to hire the equipment whenever we conducted vision screening activities, which limited how often and how



far we could reach. Having our own kit now means we can plan and carry out more frequent screenings, respond faster to community needs, and improve the quality of eye care services we provide. This achievement is a big step forward in strengthening our commitment to making vision health accessible to everyone in our community.

### **CLINIC**

The Light and Hope Clinic has been able to provide affordable, essential healthcare to Mathare Valley residents, where access to healthcare is often out of reach, our community clinic has become a place of hope and healing. This time around, we served 325 people, offering them care that goes beyond treatment to restore dignity a



nd trust. Every day, children, mothers, and families walk through our doors seeking not just medical attention, but compassion and support. The clinic has grown into a trusted space where the community knows they will be heard and cared for. It is more than a health facility. It is a reminder that even in difficult circumstances, every life matters and deserves quality care.

### **Irene's reflection**

As I sit back and watch the last group of people walk away, tears fill my eyes ,not out of sadness, but overwhelming joy. I can still see the smiles on their faces, the sparkle in their eyes as they put on their glasses and, for the first time in years, saw the world clearly again. In that moment, I was reminded of something Dr. Shah once said: *"True happiness comes from serving the unknown."* Today, those words came alive.

Watching an elderly woman read the Bible without squinting, or a young boy recognize his mother's face from a distance, filled my heart in ways words can't fully express. This vision screening wasn't just about distributing eyeglasses, it was about restoring confidence, dignity, and hope. It was a reminder that small acts of service can illuminate lives in ways we may never fully understand. And as I sat there, surrounded by gratitude and laughter, I realized that this serving humanity with love and purpose , is where true happiness truly begins. As we enter the months of November and December, with a series of vision screenings lined up, I am truly filled with gratitude and anticipation.